

**INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT**

International application No  
PCT/EP 03/13856

**A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER**  
IPC 7 B06B1/04

According to International Patent Classification (IPC) or to both national classification and IPC

**B. FIELDS SEARCHED**

Minimum documentation searched (classification system followed by classification symbols)  
IPC 7 B06B G01N

Documentation searched other than minimum documentation to the extent that such documents are included in the fields searched

Electronic data base consulted during the international search (name of data base and, where practical, search terms used)

EPO-Internal

**C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT**

Category	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
A	US 6 009 756 A (BARBIAN OTTO-ALFRED ET AL) 4 January 2000 (2000-01-04) column 8, line 56 -column 9, line 10 figure 5 ---	1-10
A	EP 0 579 255 A (FRAUNHOFER GES FORSCHUNG) 19 January 1994 (1994-01-19) cited in the application column 6, line 37 -column 7, line 6 figures 5-7 ---	1-10
A	EP 0 440 317 A (MANNESMANN AG) 7 August 1991 (1991-08-07) page 4, line 47 -page 5, line 38 figures 3,4 ---	1-10
		-/-

Further documents are listed in the continuation of box C.

Patent family members are listed in annex.

**\* Special categories of cited documents :**

- "A" document defining the general state of the art which is not considered to be of particular relevance
- "E" earlier document but published on or after the International filing date
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- "O" document referring to an oral disclosure, use, exhibition or other means
- "P" document published prior to the international filing date but later than the priority date claimed

- "T" later document published after the international filing date or priority date and not in conflict with the application but cited to understand the principle or theory underlying the invention
- "X" document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered novel or cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is taken alone
- "Y" document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is combined with one or more other such documents, such combination being obvious to a person skilled in the art.
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Date of the actual completion of the international search

Date of mailing of the international search report

13 May 2004

21/05/2004

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C.(Continuation) DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT		
Category	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
A	DE 39 35 432 A (MANNESMANN AG) 25 April 1991 (1991-04-25) column 5, line 11 -column 7, line 10 figures 1-8	1-10
A	PETERSEN G L ET AL: "RESONANCE TECHNIQUES AND APPARATUS FOR ELASTIC-WAVE VELOCITY DETERMINATION IN THIN METAL PLATES" REVIEW OF SCIENTIFIC INSTRUMENTS, AMERICAN INSTITUTE OF PHYSICS, NEW YORK, US, vol. 65, no. 1, 1994, pages 192-198, XP000428565 ISSN: 0034-6748 the whole document	1-10

**INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT**

Information on patent family members

International application No  
PCT/EP 03/13856

Patent document cited in search report	Publication date		Patent family member(s)	Publication date
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